

## Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SY-05

A-01 OPR-02 MCT-01 OMB-01 SCSE-00 SCA-01 CU-04 /080 W

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P R 100853Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5431

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 1012

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS,SF

REF: CAPE TOWN 1008

SUMMARY- RIOTING FLARED AT VARIOUS POINTS IN CAPE TOWN AREA YESTERDAY (SEPTEMBER 9) WITH PARTICULAR HEAVY STONING, LOOTING AND ARSON IN "COLORED" SUBURBS OF MANNENBERG WHERE 12 PEOPLE REPORTED KILLED. DEATH TOLL FOR PAST TWO DAYS NOW PUT AT 19 BY POLICE. CAPE TIMES NEWSPAPER APPEALED FOR "PEACE OFFENSIVE" IN FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL AND STUDENT COUNCIL AT UCT HAS CALLED FOR 3-DAY CLOSURE TO PROTEST INJUSTICES. END SUMMARY.

1. EXTENSIVE RIOTING OCCURRED PRIMARILY IN "COLORED" AREAS AROUND CAPE TOWN SEPTEMBER 9. HEAVIST ACTION WAS IN MANENBERG A "COLORED" SUBURB ALONG LANSDOWNE ROAD NEAR DF MALAN AIRPORT. POLICE REPORTEDLY BATTLED FOR HOURS TO BREAK UP CROWDS WHO BURNED AND LOOTED BUILDINGS AND STONED VEHICLES. TWELVE WERE CONFIRMED KILLED BY POLICE AND AT LEAST 30 ARRESTED. THE CENTER OF THE CITY WAS FREE OF DEMONSTRATORS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL DAYS. DOCTORS AND NURSES AT GREEN POINT HOSPITAL HELD BRIEF AND PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST DEATHS AND INJURIES CALLING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS.

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2. AT PAROW INDUSTRIAL AREA IN ELSIES RIVER, FACTORIES REMAINED CLOSED AS RESULT OF PREVIOUS DAYS RIOTING AND THERE WAS SPORADIC STONING AND BURNING. IN A FAMILIAR PATTERN, ANGRY CROWDS DISPERSED UNDER POLICE FIRE AND REFORMED AS SOON AS POLICE VEHICLES LEFT. HEAVY STONING BURNING AND LOOTING WERE REPORTED ALSO IN REVENSMED AND RETREAT. IN LATTER AREA SHOPPING CENTER WRECKED BY STONE THROWING STUDENTS AND HEAVY STONING OF VEHICLES REPORTED ON STGEORGE'S DRIVE, A MAJOR ARTERY THROUGH RETREAT. SIMILAR ACTIVITY ALSO REPORTED IN "BLACK" TOWNSHIPS OF NYANGA AND GUGULETU.

3. ELSEWHERE IN AREA, POLICE FORMED CONVOYS TO ESCORT CARS THROUGH HELSHOOGTE PASS FROM STELLENBOSCH TO BANHOEK DUE TO STONING OF CARS IN IDS'S VALLEY. BUILDINGS AND CARS WERE BURNED IN PAARL AND BUS SERVICE TO THE AREA WAS SUSPENDED. DEMONSTRATIONS WERE ALSO REPORTED AT MOSSEL BAY, OUDTSHOORN, KIMBERLEY AND PORT ELIZABETH.

4. IN FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL HEADLINED "WANTED: A PEACE OFFENSIVE" CAPE TIMES NEWSPAPER DEPLORED INCREASING VIOLENCE WHICH WOULD DESTROY SOCIETY. ACKNOWLEDGING NEED FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE AND DECRYING LACK OF LEADERSHIP, IT URGED CITIZENS TO USE ALL CHANNELS, E.G. NEWSPAPERS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CHURCHES, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS, LETTERS TO MPS, ETC. TO "GET A POWERFUL PUBLIC OPINION GOING FOR PEACE". EDITORIAL SAID NOT ONLY THOSE DEPRIVED OF REPRESENTATION BUT ALSO THOUSANDS OF THE "PRIVILEGED" ARE THOROUGHLY ASHAMED OF EXISTING INJUSTICES. IT SAID PROBLEMS WERE ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL AND POWERFUL NEW PRESSURES WERE UNDER WAY TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THEM. HOWEVER, EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT A NEW SOUTH AFRICA COULD ONLY GO ON IN CONDITION OF PEACE AND CALM. IT ASKED READERS TO DO WHAT THEY COULD TO GET A "PEACE OFFENSIVE" GOING.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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